

POPPING THE QUESTION.
A STATEMENT OF THE PROGRESS THAT
WILL BE MADE BY THE YOUNG MAN.

(From Tid-Bits.)
Don't be too sudden about it. Many a girl has said "no" when she meant "yes," simply because the lover didn't choose the right time and place for the question.
Take a dark night for it. Have the blinds closed, the curtains down and the lamp turned out. Sit near enough to her so you can look into her eyes and see the light and the question gently.
Wait until the conversation begins to flag and then quietly remark:
"Sister, I want to ask you something."
"She will blurt out a little and probably say 'Yes!'"
After a pause you can add:
"What, my actions must have shown—that you must have seen—I mean you must have been aware that—"
"Remember for a while, but keep your little finger firmly locked. She may cough and try to turn the subject off by asking you how you liked the sermon, but she only does it to encourage you. After a pause you can continue:
"I was thinking as I was coming up the street to-night that before I went away I would ask you—that is, I would break the subject nearest my—I mean I would know my—"
"Stop again and give her hand a gentle squeeze. She may make a move to get away or she may not. In either case it augurs well for you. Wait five minutes and then go on.
"The past year has been a very happy one to me, but I hope that in five years you

will still be happy. However, that depends entirely on you. I am here to-night to know—that is, to ask you—I am here to-night to hear from your own lips the one sweet—"
"Wait again. It isn't best to be too rash about such things. Give her plenty of time to recover her composure, and then put your hand on her heart and continue:
"Yes, I thought as I was coming in to-night how happy I'd been, and I said to myself that if I only knew you would consent to be my—that is, I said if I only knew—if I was on'y certain that my heart had not deceived me, and you were ready to share—"
"Hold on—there's no hurry about it. Give the wind a chance to sob and moan outside among the trees. This will make her less nervous, and call up all the love in her heart. When she begins to cough and grow restless you can go on:
"Before I met you this world was a desert to me. I didn't take any pleasure in life and it didn't matter whether the sun shone or not. But what a change in one short year. It is for you to say whether my future shall be a paradise of happiness or one long and never-ending pathway of thistles. Speak, I arrest you, and say—and say that—"
"Give her five minutes more by the clock and then add:
"That you—you will be—that is, that you will be mine!"
She will leave a sigh, look up at the clock, and round the room, and then as she stands over your vest-pocket she will whisper:
"Henry—I will."

TWO MEN WRONG—ONE MAN
RIGHT.

"You will be in Kingston in less than two months!"
"You are not going to die!"
These three phrases were addressed to the same man. The last one had the most comfort in it, yet he couldn't tell which had the most inspiration.
Here's the story. It isn't pleasant reading at first, but it comes out all right, as the children say.
Perhaps it's better to let our friend tell it himself. We all like the person "I," this relation is a butcher of Auckland, N.Z., and his style is so clear and good, it needs no editing.
He says: "Some five years ago, when lifting a quarter of beef, I noticed a remarkable soreness in the small of my back. I called a doctor, gave up business, and went to my bed. He prescribed a lotion to be rubbed in around the region of the kidneys. This was done, and I remained in bed several days, enduring excruciating agony. At last, having examined the kidney secretion, the doctor said, 'You have Bright's disease, and will be in Kingston in less than two months.'"
"Never believing I had Bright's disease, I thought, however, it would be as well to insure my life. On examination, the company's physician refused to pass me for life insurance, saying, 'You can't live three years.'"
"About three months afterwards I was again advised to get my back and went about more dead than a live. Finally I

broke down, and again took to my bed, as was expected, for the last time. I told one of my business men to go and leave too many affairs for my wife to supervise, made my will, and explained to my wife what to do in case of my death. I can well remember her listening with tears in her eyes to what she believed was my last instructions. I then suggested for some weeks, waiting for death to free me from my sufferings—taking whatever medicines were prescribed, but deriving little or no relief.
"One evening, a friend called, and we talked over my case and the very serious turn it had taken. Presently he said, 'You are not going to die. Have you tried Seigel's Syrup yet?'"
"I confessed that I had not. In fact, I had religiously followed the instructions of my medical advisers. My friend persuaded me to try Seigel's Syrup, and I began at once, taking twenty drops according to the directions. In about a week I felt a little more life in me, and after having finished the second bottle I was convinced that improvement had fairly set in. I continued taking the Syrup until I had consumed ten bottles, then went downstairs to work again, still using the Syrup. After having taken from eighteen to twenty bottles altogether, I found myself entirely well. It was four years since I took my last dose of Mother Seigel's Syrup for Bright's disease of the kidneys, and I have suffered no symptoms of kidney complaint since."
"Signed) ROBERT HURONSON, Butcher, Wellington, West, Auckland, New Zealand."
We print Mr. Huronson's statement as he wrote it, yet it is not probable that his malady was actually Bright's disease, as that is a degeneration or destruction of the substance of the kidneys, and difficult, if not impossible, to cure. What he really suffered from was, no doubt, a debilitated state of the system, originating in indigestion and dyspepsia, with severe kidney symptoms, as is often the case. When we remember that nearly all maladies, including rheumatism, gout, consumption, liver complaint, heart disease, &c., are due to poisons in the blood, arising from fermented food in the digestive tract, we can see why Mother Seigel's Syrup is victorious over so great a variety of apparently diverse diseases. And because of the one source of these complaints, serious and often fatal mistakes are made in the diagnosis and in the treatment. The point to emphasize is this: Heart disease, consumption, and Bright's disease are much rarer than they are supposed to be. Generally what seems like them is a group of symptoms of indigestion and dyspepsia. It is always best to take the advice of Mr. Huronson's friend when he said, 'You are not going to die, try Seigel's Syrup.'

NOW READY.
PRICE, \$1.00.
COMPARATIVE CHINESE FAMILY LAW
BY E. H. PARKER.

Can be obtained from KILBY & WALSH at Shanghai and Hongkong, LAY & CHAN, and Co., Hongkong, and at the New York Office.

SHARE LIST—QUOTATIONS.

Hongkong, Saturday 4 p.m., 25th July, 1891.

| STOCKS. | When Established. | Capital. | No. of Shares. | Par Value of Share. | Amount Paid up per Share. | POSITION PER LAST REPORT. | | | Intrinsic value per share as per figures and at date of last Report. | Annual Yield to Investors at closing price, on basis of last Dividend. | CASH QUOTATIONS. (For Time Bargains see memo. at foot.) | | | |
|--|-------------------|-----------|----------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---|--|--|--|---|----------------------------------|---------------|---------|
| | | | | | | Reserve Fund. | At credit of working a/c. or Bal. Prof. Paid. | DIVIDEND. | | | Closing. | Highest. | Lowest. | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Amount. |
| Banks. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation | 1865 | 7,500,000 | 60,000 | 125 | all | \$6,505,596.31 | 120,377.54 | 50 and 20 bonus for 5 yrs. to 31/12/90 at 20 and 10 p. c. and 10 & 11 1/2 bonus for 4 yrs. at 20 & 10 p. c. new share. | Mar. 2, 91 | \$218.92 | 13.15 per cent. on old basis | 173 per cent. prem. on last year | 282 | 197 |
| Do. New Issue. | 1890 | 2,500,000 | 20,000 | 125 | all | — | — | 28 1/2 = \$7 per sh. for 1889 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Bank of China, Japan & Straits. | 1889 | 1,000,000 | 99,875 | 10 | 1.5 | — | — | 18 per cent. for year ending 30/4/90 | Feb. 14, 91 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Do. New Issue. | 1889 | 1,000,000 | 100,000 | 10 | 1.5 | — | — | 10 p. c. for 1890 ending 31/12/90 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Do. Founders | 1889 | — | 1,250 | 1 | 1.5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Marine Insurances. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited | 1867 | 2,500,000 | 10,000 | 250 | 25 | 770,000 | \$ 331,691.08 | 28 1/2 = \$7 per sh. for 1889 | Oct. 14, 90 | \$108.21 | 7.29 | \$66 | — | — |
| China Traders Insurance Co., Ltd. | 1865 | 2,000,000 | 24,000 | 83.33 | 25 | 650,000 | 204,929.49 | 18 per cent. for year ending 30/4/90 | Sept. 12, 90 | \$52.08 | 7.14 | \$63, sellers | — | — |
| North China Insurance Co., Ltd. | 1863 | 1,000,000 | 6,000 | 200 | 50 | Ts. 320,000.00 | Tls. 423,721.76 | \$6 per share for 1889 | Mar. 12, 90 | Tls. 109.48 | 9.90 | Tls. 62 1/2 | — | — |
| Yangtze Insur. Association, Ltd. | 1862 | 800,000 | 8,000 | 100 | all | \$ 510,617.08 | \$ 430,426.12 | 10 % to 1/2 1890 | Jan. 1, 01 | \$100.00 | 4.76 | \$105 | — | — |
| Canton Insurance Office, Ltd. | 1881 | 2,600,000 | 10,000 | 260 | 50 | 500,000 | 219,616.09 | 5 % for 1890 | July 4, 91 | \$20.83 | — | \$15 1/2 | — | — |
| Straits Insurance Co. Ltd. | 1886 | 3,000,000 | 30,000 | 100 | 20 | 25,000 | 31,621.00 | 5 % for 1890 | July 4, 91 | \$20.83 | — | \$15 1/2 | — | — |
| Fire Insurances. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hongkong Fire Insur. Co., Ltd. | 1868 | 2,000,000 | 8,000 | 250 | 50 | 180,000 | 285,007.23 | 18 p. sh. for 1889 | Mar. 2, 91 | \$182.00 | 5.76 | \$312 1/2, buyers | — | — |
| China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd. | 1870 | 2,000,000 | 20,000 | 100 | 20 | 248,500 | 231,876.04 | 45 p. sh. final div. 30/6/90 | Feb. 28, 91 | \$52.42 | 7.27 | \$83, buyers | — | — |
| Straits Fire Insurance Co., Ltd. | 1866 | 2,000,000 | 20,000 | 100 | 20 | 20,000 | 100,840.55 | 30 per cent. for 1889 | Mar. 27, 91 | \$20.86 | 11.56 | \$15, sales | — | — |
| Fire and Marine Insurances. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Singapore Insurance Co., Ltd. | 1864 | 4,000,000 | 40,000 | 100 | 20 | 37,582.76 | 30,874.54 | 31/12/90 | — | — | — | \$3, nom. | — | — |
| Docks and Wharves. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| H.K. & W. Wharves Dock Co., Ltd. | 1866 | 1,362,500 | 12,500 | 125 | all | — | \$ 3,620.20 | 12 % for 1890 | Feb. 24, 91 | \$136.04 | 6.00 | 100 % prem. | — | — |
| Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co., Limited. | 1866 | 1,000,000 | 20,000 | 50 | all | — | 2,585.92 | 7 % for 1890 | Feb. 8, 91 | \$48.37 | 4.14 | \$94 1/2, buyers | — | — |
| Wanchai Warehouse & Storage Co., Limited | 1891 | 25,000 | 2,500 | 100 | 37 1/2 | — | — | first year | — | — | — | Par | — | — |
| Shipping. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hongkong, Canton & Macao Steam-boat Co., Limited | 1865 | 1,600,000 | 30,000 | 20 | all | (\$ 50,000) | 10,686.30 | 5 per cent. div. for 5 yrs. ending 31/12/90. | Jan. 31, 91 | \$31.36 | 7.16 per cent. | \$33 1/2, buyers | \$33 | \$33 |
| Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Limited | 1882 | 1,200,000 | 60,000 | 10 | all | (\$ 65,000) | 892.6 | 24 1/2 for 1890 ending 31 Dec. 1890 | June 1, 91 | \$10.12 1/2 | 3.55 | 30 1/2 dis. | — | — |
| Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd. | 1883 | 1,000,000 | 20,000 | 50 | all | \$ 347,833.31 | 2,709.56 | 4 1/2 % for 1890 | Sept. 22, 90 | \$68.83 | 5.11 | \$44, sellers | — | — |
| China & Manila S. S. Co., Ltd. | 1882 | 250,000 | 5,000 | 50 | all | 25,000 | 1,974.47 | 8 1/2 % (scrip. div.) | April, 91 | — | — | \$80, nom. | — | — |
| Steam Launch Company, Ltd. | 1888 | 100,000 | 2,000 | 50 | 30 | — | 80.30 | — | — | — | — | par nominal | — | — |
| Refineries. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd. | 1878 | 1,500,000 | 15,000 | 100 | all | — | 1,840.46 | 9 % for year ending 31/12/90 | Mar. 22, 91 | \$100.70 | 4.86 | \$185, buyers | — | — |
| Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd. | 1882 | 700,000 | 7,000 | 100 | all | — | 2,941.20 | 4 1/2 per share for year ending 31/12/90 | Mar. 27, 91 | \$110.17 | 9.30 | \$85, nom. | — | — |
| Lands and Trusts. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hongkong Land Investment & Agency Company, Ltd. | 1886 | 5,000,000 | 50,000 | 100 | 50 | 1,250,000 | 681.64 | 9 1/4 % for year ending 31/12/90 | Jan. 27, 91 | \$74.88 | 5.72 | \$83, nom. | — | — |
| Kowloon Land and Building Company, Ltd. | 1889 | 300,000 | 6,000 | 50 | 30 | — | \$ 1,546.58 | — | — | — | — | \$17, buyers | — | — |
| Tramways. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hongkong High-Level Tramway Company, Limited | 1887 | 125,000 | 1,250 | 100 | all | — | 1,247.54 | at 30 Nov. 90 | — | — | — | par nominal | \$70, sellers | — |
| Mining. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (a) The Balmora Gold Mining Co., Ltd. | 1868 | 180,000 | 18,000 | 10 | all | — | — | — | — | — | — | \$5, nom. | — | — |
| (b) Jichin Mining & Iron Co., Ltd. | 1888 | 250,000 | 25,000 | 5 | all | — | — | 1,091 spec. for 1890, ending 31/12/90 | April 21, 90 | — | — | \$3.75 | — | — |
| (c) Saitama Tin Mining Company, Limited. | 1868 | 125,000 | 25,000 | 5 | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | \$2 | — | — |
| Panjin & Sangha Doo Samantan Mining Co., Ltd. | 1886 | 600,000 | 60,000 | 10 | all | — | 1,176,423.12 | — | — | — | — | \$31, buyers | — | — |
| Société Française des Charbonnages du Tonkin | 1888 | 4,000,000 | 8,000 | 500 | all | — | 1,168,960.86 | — | — | — | — | \$316 | — | — |
| (d) Imuria Mines, Limited | 1888 | 200,000 | 20,000 | 1 | all | — | — | — | — | — | — | \$91, buyers | — | — |
| Raub Mines | — | 1,000,000 | 1,000 | 1 | 17 1/2 | — | 8,019.17 | 11/11/90 | — | — | — | 80 cts., sellers | — | — |
| Planting, &c. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| China-Borneo Company, Limited | 1888 | 750,000 | 7,500 | 100 | 60 | — | 4,400.87 | at 31/12/90 | — | — | — | nominal. | — | — |
| Lat Pau Planting Co., Limited | 1888 | 250,000 | 2,500 | 50 | 60 | — | 1,472,500.10 | 12 % for 1890 | Apr. 19, 91 | — | 10.68 | \$15, nom. | — | — |
| (e) H. G. Brown & Co., Limited | 1888 | 300,000 | 6,000 | 50 | all | — | 2,397.30 | 8 % for 6 m. ending 31/12/90 | Mar. 13, 91 | \$100.30 | 4.61 | \$85, nom. | — | — |
| Hotels, Buildings, &c. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hongkong Hotel Co., Limited | 1886 | 300,000 | 6,000 | 50 | all | — | — | — | — | — | — | \$12, nom. | — | — |
| Do. New Issue. | — | 300,000 | 6,000 | 50 | 25 | — | — | — | — | — | — | \$5, nom. | — | — |
| Austin Arms Hotel & Building Company, Limited | 1888 | 200,000 | 4,000 | 50 | 50 | — | 9,862.06 | — | — | — | — | \$5, nom. | — | — |
| Peak Hotel & Trading Co., Ltd. | 1888 | 200,000 | 4,000 | 50 | 50 | — | 82.37 | 14 % interim divid. | July 20, 91 | \$38.70 | 4.80 | \$23, sales | — | — |
| West Point Building Co., Ltd. | 1888 | 125,000 | 2,500 | 50 | 40 | — | — | — | — | — | — | \$18, nom. | — | — |
| Shannon Hotel & Land Co., Limited | 1888 | 100,000 | 6,000 | 50 | 20 | — | 6,999.18 | 14 per cent. for 1890 on old capital of \$25,000 | May 25, 90 | \$106.00 | 7.00 | \$200, nom. | — | — |
| Humphrey's Estate & Finance Company, Ltd. | 1888 | 250,000 | 2,500 | 100 | all | — | 1,660.91 | at 28/2/90 | — | — | — | \$50, nom. | — | — |
| Borneo Hotel & Stores Co., Ltd. | — | 50,000 | 1,000 | 50 | 50 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Dispensaries. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| A. S. Watson & Co., Limited | 1886 | 500,000 | 50,000 | 1 | all | (\$140,000) | 1,419.88 | Final Div. 7 per cent. making 14 p. c. for 90 | May 15, 91 | \$12.65 | 7.17 | \$10 1/2, sellers | — | — |
| Cruikshank & Co., Limited | 1888 | 80,000 | 1,600 | 50 | all | — | 546.00 | on 28/2/90 | — | — | — | nominal. | — | — |
| Lighting. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hongkong & China Gas Co., Limited | 1864 | 50,000 | 5,000 | 10 | all | \$ 14,326.4 | 1,934.14 | 10 per cent. for year ending 31/12/90, 2 per cent. bonus for 90 | Apr. 3, 91 | \$11.15 | 6.20 | \$130, nom. | — | — |
| Hongkong Electric Co., Limited | 1888 | 300,000 | 30,000 | 10 | 8 | — | — | — | — | — | — | \$5, nom. | — | — |
| Iron Foundries. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Geo. Fenwick & Co., Limited | 1889 | 150,000 | 6,000 | 25 | all | 1,000 | 3,600.70 | 7 % for 1890 | Mar. 11, 91 | — | — | \$15, nom. | — | — |
| A. G. Gordon & Co., Limited | 1886 | 150,000 | 6,000 | 25 | 20 | — | 7,951.59 | — | — | — | — | \$10, nom. | — | — |
| Brick and Cement. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hongkong Brick and Cement Company, Limited | 1886 | 100,000 | 4,000 | 25 | 17 1/2 | — | 34,114.18 | at 31 Oct. 1890 | — | — | — | \$13, nom. | — | — |
| Green Island Cement Company Limited | 1888 | 1,000,000 | 20,000 | 50 | 50 | — | 562,173.70 | at 30/12/90 | — | — | — | \$10, nom. | — | — |
| Miscellaneous. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hongkong Ice Co., Limited | 1881 | 125,000 | 5,000 | 25 | all | \$ 40,000 | 506.78 | 24 % for 1890 | Feb. 15, 91 | \$34.70 | 6.84 | \$83, sellers | — | — |
| H'kong & China Bakery Co., Ltd. | 1872 | 30,000 | 600 | 50 | all | — | 703.07 | 10 p. c. for year ending 31/12/90 | Mar. 17, 91 | \$52.23 | 5.88 | \$75, nom. | — | — |
| H.K. Rope Manufacturing Co., Ltd. | 1883 | 150,000 | 3,000 | 50 | all | \$ 25,000 | \$ 6,110.80 | 15 per cent. = 45 per share for 1890 | Mar. 24, 91 | \$56.37 | 5.35 | \$112 | — | — |
| Dairy Farm Co., Limited | 1886 | 100,000 | 10,000 | 10 | all | — | 335.58 | — | — | — | — | \$8 | — | — |
| Campbell, Moore & Co., Limited | 1886 | 12,000 | 1,200 | 10 | all | — | Cr. \$ 846.81 | — | — | — | — | \$10, nom. | — | — |
| Martinbark Furniture Co., Ltd. | 1889 | 74,000 | 3,000 | 25 | 8 | — | — | — | — | — | — | nominal. | — | — |